Ensuring Investments in the New Normal Era, Bahlil Visits Several Areas in Central Java

Batang, 8 June 2020 - Chairman of Indonesian Investment Coordinating Board (BKPM) Bahlil Lahadalia made visits to several areas in Central Java on Saturday and Sunday (6-7 June). These visits are made to ascertain the investment climate in the new normal. "We would like to make sure in this era of the new normal, investment activities return to normal" Bahlil said.

Bahlil visited a number of areas namely, Brebes Industrial Park, PT Perkebunan Nusantara IX Batang plantation, and steam-fueled power plants (PLTU) Batang. During his visits, the BKPM Chairman also coordinated with Batang Regent Wihaji on industrial developments and investments in the area.

Bahlil also conveyed that in general, investment realization in regions have started to go smoothly, when previously industrial and investment activities were delayed during the enactment of large-scale social restrictions (PSBB). "We have observed investment activities have started to show a pulse. Construction work in the field have gone well," said Bahlil.

The BKPM Chairman always reminds that business activities in the field should follow health protocols to prevent transmission of COVID-19. "I personally checked PLTU Batang, their COVID-19 standards have even included technology to automatically detect the body temperature of employees entering the power plant area," Bahlil said.

The PLTU is an investment of Rp60 trillion. Eventually, this power plant will allow State-owned electricity firm PLN to add 5.7% to the Java-Bali power supply. "Furthermore, we hope it will supply power to industries in several areas in Central Java, such as Pekalongan, Kendal, and Semarang. Especially considering this area is growing rapidly, its power needs would automatically increase," said Bahlil.

During the visit, the BKPM Chairman was accompanied by Batang Regent Wihaji, Special Staff to the BKPM Chairman Eka Sastra, BKPM Sectoral Promotion Director Imam Soejoedi, BKPM Director of Regional Promotion Facilitation Indra Darmawan, BKPM Investment Committee Rizal Calvary Marimbo, Head of the Central Java One-Stop Integrated Investmet Services Agency (DPMPTSP) Ratna Kawuri, and Chairman of PT Perkebunan Nusantara IX (PTPN IX) Tio Handoko.

Currently Central Java is one of the favorite destination for domestic and foreign investments. Bahlil explained, the investment climate in Central Java is very conducive and is in itself a competitive value for this area. "It is very calm, no unrests, infrastructure is readily available, and the hospitality of its people further increases Central Java’s competitive investment value," Bahlil said.

Central Java ranks 4th in Foreign Direct Investment (FDI) and Domestic Direct Investment (DDI) investment realization for the first quarter of 2020 with a value of Rp19.3 trillion (9.1% from total investment realization). DDI investment far dominates with a value of Rp 14.6 trillion, while FDI investment is at US$321 million (Rp4.7 trillion). (*)
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